

The Planning Commission for the City of Junction City met on Tuesday, September 18, 2012, at 5:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers at City Hall, 680 Greenwood Street, Junction City Oregon.

PRESENT WERE: Commissioners, Brad Lemhouse (Chair), Jeff Haag, Jenna Wheeler (arrived at 5:31 pm), Donna Bernardy, Karen Leach, Sandra Dunn and Jason Thiesfeld; Planning Commission Alternate, Patricia Phelan; Planner, Stacy Clauson; City Administrator, Kevin Watson; City Attorney, Carrie Connelly; ECONorthwest Consultants, Beth Goodman and Bob Parker; and Planning Secretary, Tere Andrews;
ABSENT: None

I. OPEN MEETING AND REVIEW AGENDA

Chair Lemhouse opened the meeting at 5:30 pm. (Commission Wheeler arrived) and reviewed the agenda.

II. PUBLIC COMMENTS (FOR ITEMS NOT ALREADY ON THE AGENDA)

Ms Patricia Phelan, 920 West 1st Avenue expressed her concern about the possibility of allowing roosters as well as chickens.

Mr. Jamie Hooper, 449 Laurel St., Junction City OR 97448 asked if the public comments could be made about the chickens and bees.

Chair Lemhouse replied when they get to that agenda item. The Planning Commission would look at the merits of the issue. He said should the issue move forward, a public hearing would be held at a future meeting.

III. PLANNING COMMISSION RECRUITMENT

Planner Clauson reviewed the recruitment process and the applications received. She noted there was an application received earlier today.

Commissioner Leach asked about the deadline of September 11, 2012. And what the minimum residency requirements were to be on the Planning Commission

Planner Clauson replied the 60 days noted in Resolution 1013 was a minimum. There was not a requirement for minimum residency.

The Commission discussed the openings through vacancy and term expirations.

Commissioner Bernardy chose not to re-apply for the Planning Commission. Her term would expire as of October, 2012.

Commissioner Thiesfeld asked Planning Alternate Phelan if she was willing to move into a Planning Commissioner seat.

Alternate Phelan said she was interested.

Motion: Commissioner Haag made motion to recommend reappoint of Commissioners Leach and Thiesfeld to their commission seats, appoint Alternate Phelan to the Planning Commission seat being vacated by Commissioner Bernardy and appoint Mr. Kenneth Weaver to an alternate position. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Dunn.

The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

IV. CHICKENS AND BEES IN THE CITY LIMITS

Planner Clauson said the issue was brought before the City Council in June, 2012. The Council directed staff to take the question of urban chickens, ducks and/or bees to the Planning Commission.

Chair Lemhouse asked if there were public comments.

Lane County Bee Keepers Society, Ms Judy Share, Eugene OR, her organization recommended a limitation on hives of two (2) and encouraged access to education. There was a master level bee keeper program through the State of Oregon as well as other resources.

Diana Smith, 633 SW Laurel Street, Junction City OR 97448 spoke in support of chicken keeping in the city limits. She suggested looking to other communities which allow chicken keeping.

Commissioner Thiesfeld said there was a website called 'thecitychicken.com' that contained information on city's that allowed chicken/bee keeping. He asked to have the survey monkey put back up on the city website to gather more feedback.

City Administrator suggested using another survey source as survey monkey allowed multiple responses from one individual.

Chair Lemhouse asked what Planner Clauson needed from the Commission this evening. He suggested a work session to begin drafting an ordinance.

Planner Clauson said the timeline provided in the packets could be condensed. She could simply bring back draft regulations.

Commissioner Wheeler asked if the study session was an appropriate time for citizen input.

Planner Clauson said it could be structured that way. Typically a study session was for the commission to review and discuss the issue.

Chair Lemhouse asked if they needed a work session.

Planner Clauson replied she could present various options for the different aspects of chicken and/or bee keeping at a work session.

Commissioner Haag suggested should there be regulations they should be kept simple.

Sterling Biggar, 1535 Juniper Street, Junction City Oregon 97448, said bee keepers can keep the Africanized bees under control in areas that have that type of bee.

Commissioner Bernardy said of the people she spoke with in town most were accepting of beekeeping, they were not supportive of urban chickens.

Chair Lemhouse asked the Commission if there should be public comment during the work session

Commissioner Haag preferred the work session be a time for the Commission to discuss and review the information.

Commissioner Leach asked how other jurisdictions dealt with these issues in regard to rental housing.

Planner Clauson said there was less information available on bees as far as ordinances. There were some model ordinances from advocacy groups.

Chair Lemhouse asked Planner Clauson to contact other Oregon jurisdictions that have bee and/or chicken keeping ordinances to see what their experience had been.

Planner Clauson said the next meeting could be a work session.

The Commission suggested a public hearing could be held in January, 2013.

V. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Planner Clauson reviewed the following future agenda items. Oregon State Hospital development review application had been received.

The Transportation System Plan update was

VI. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

Commissioner Wheeler reminded the Commission to remain professional.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

Motion: Commissioner Wheeler made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Haag.

Vote: 6:0:0

Chair Lemhouse, Commissioners, Haag, Leach, Thiesfeld, Wheeler, Bernardy and Dunn voted in favor.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:21p.m.

The next regularly scheduled Planning Commission meeting would be Tuesday, October **, 2012 at 6:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Tere Andrews, Planning Secretary

Brad Lemhouse, Chair